

Case Service Memo: 2006 - 07

Subject: Approval of Using Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) for the Provision of Medication Management

To: All Staff

From: Stacey Cummings, Program Director, Case Service

Issue Date: November 13, 2006

Effective Date: November 13, 2006

Purpose: This memo grants approval for VR counselors to purchase medication management services from Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) for their clients.

Clarification of Policy: APRNs may provide approved services, which include diagnostic services for the purpose of identifying restoration needs only (approval has not been granted for the purchase of APRN diagnostics to determine eligibility for VR services) and ongoing medication management treatment. Counselors may also purchase therapy services from APRNs, provided that the APRN has a specialization in psychiatric mental health nursing. APRNs with specializations in other categories (such as pediatrics, gerontology, etc) are not licensed to provide mental health therapy.

Determining Fees: Medical services should be paid using the USOR Medical Fee Schedule. Services normally provided by APRNs are defined below and the corresponding CPT codes are listed as well. Approved fees are also listed using the Medical Fee Schedule in place as of the date of this memo. **When the Medical Fee Schedule is updated the approved fees may change.** If an APRN provides mental health therapy only (without medication management services) counselors should use the hourly amount listed as approved for psychological counseling from the approved fees schedule rather than using a CPT code. Services should be purchased using control code 206.

Definitions:

Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation, defined as “psychiatric diagnostic interview examination”, CPT 90801, up to \$170 allowed.

Psychotherapy w/ medication management, defined as “individual psychotherapy, insight-oriented, behavior-modifying and/or supportive, in an office or outpatient facility, approximately 45 to 50 minutes face-to-face with the patient, with medical evaluation and management services”, CPT 90807, up to \$117 allowed.

Psychotherapy w/medication management, defined as “individual psychotherapy, insight-oriented, behavior-modifying and/or supportive, in an office or outpatient facility, approximately 20 to 30 minutes face-to-face with the patient, with medical evaluation and management services”, CPT 90805, up to \$80 allowed.

Pharmacologic management, defined as “including prescription, use, and review of medication with no more than minimal medical psychotherapy”, CPT 90862, up to \$58 allowed.